

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 SP-02 AID-05 NSC-05 RSC-01

CIEP-01 TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-01 OMB-01 CEA-01 L-02 H-01

PA-01 PRS-01 USIA-06 CIAE-00 COME-00 FRB-03 INR-07

NSAE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03 LAB-04 SIL-01 EUR-12 /089 W

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R 271750Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 806

INFO AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE GEORGETOWN 0136

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, GY, XL

SUBJECT: TRADE ACT OF 1974 - GOG POSITION ON APPLICATION FOR
GSP ELIGIBILITY

REF: (A)STATE 282967; (B) GEORGETOWN 0093

1. AS FOLLOW-UP TO REFTEL B, I ASCED FONMIN RAMPHAL JAN 24
WHERE GOG STANDS ON APPLICATION FOR GSP ELEIGIBILITY. RAMPHAL
WAS IN GEORGETOWN FOR ONE-WEEK INTERLUDE IN CURRENT BRUSSELS
NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN ACP GROUP AND EC.

2. RAMPHAL SAID GOG IS STILL STUDYING MATTER AND CONSULTING
WITH CARICOM PARTNERS AND WITH POTENTIAL GSP BENEFICIARIES IN
NON-ALIGNED GROUP. HE ADDED THAT GOG'S MAIN CONCERN WAS UNCER-
TAINTY WHETHER IBA MEMBERSHIP WOULD EITHER NOW OR IN FUTURE MAKE
GOG INELIGIBLE UNDER QUOTE CARTEL UNQUOTE PROVISION. I TOLD
HIM I HAD BEEN ASSURED ORALLY DURING COM MEETING THAT IBA NOT
RPT NOT CONSIDERED TO CONSTITUTE CARTEL, AND THIS LATER CONFIRMED

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IN PERSONAL MESSAGE FROM ASST. SECY. RORJRS (STATE 008935),
FROM WHICH I READ SIM LAST SENTENCE PARA 3.

3. CHANGING TACK, RAMPHAL SAID HE IS ALSO UNSURE WHETHER GSP WOULD PRODUCE ANY SUBSTANTIAL BENEFITS FOR GUYANA AND HE HAS ASKED FOR TECHNICAL STUDY ON THIS POINT.

4. THEN RAMPHAL SAID WITHTWINKLE IN EYE HE WAS SURPRISED I WAS MAKING PITCH FOR CONFORMANCE TO TA PROVISIONS. HE WOULD HAVE SUPPOSED STATE DEPT INTEESTS BETTER SERVED BY ABSENCE OF APPLICATIONS FOR GSP ELIGIBILITY TO UNDERSCORE EXECUTIVE BRANCH CONTENTION THAT TA RESTRICTIONS WRITTEN IN BY CONGRESS ARE TOO RIGID. I SAID MY INSTRUCTIONS WERE TO INFOR GOG OF REQUIREMENT FOR WRITTEN APPLICATION FOR GSP BEENEFICIARY STATUS, AND THAT I ASSUMED EXECUTIVE BRANCH FELT THE CONGRESS HAD ALREADY GOTTEN A GOOD SENSE OF THE NEGATIVE REACTON IN LA AND ELSEWHERE TO THE RESTRICTIVE PROVISIONS OF TA.

5. DURING WEEKEND (JAN 26) PNC NEWSPAPER NEW NATION PUBLISHED FULL-PAGE ARTICLE WHICH CATEGORICALLY OPPOSED PROVISION OF TA THAT EXCLUDES OPEC COUNTRIES. AFTER CITING VARIOUS EXAMPLES OF LATIN AMERICAN CRITICISMOF ACT, ANONYMOUS AUTHOR STATED QUOTE WHILE GUYANA HAS NOT COME OUT WITH AN OPEN STATEMENT ON THE BILL, IT IS CLEAR THAT THE BILL WOULD MOST LIKELY AFFECT US SINCE WE HAVE BEEN AND CONTINUE TO BE IN THE VANGUARD FOR THIRD WORLD COUNTRIES TO EXERCISE THEIR SOVEREIGN RIGHTS OVER THEIR NATURAL RESOURCES AND AT CHE SAME TIME TO RESERVE THE RIGHT OF ASSOCIATION WITH ANY COUNTRY, BODY OR GROUP TO PROTECT THOSE RIGHTS UNQUOTE.

6. ARTICLE AVOID CASTIGATION OF US MOTIVES, BUT LEAVES NO DOUBT ABOUT GOG THINKING AT PRESENT TIME, EXEMPLIFIED BY CONCLUDING REMARKS WHICH STATE QUOTE THIS WELL-DEFINED POSITION OF THE GUYANA GOVT SURELY INDICATES THAT IT IS NOT PREPARED TOACCEPT THE BILLAND LOOKS UPON IT IN THE SAME LIGHT AS THE OTHER COUNTRIES

THAT HAVE SO FAR EXPRESSED THEIR OPPOSITION TO IT.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TRADE LAW, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, NEGOTIATIONS, GENERALIZED PREFERENCES (TARIFFS)
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 JAN 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: MorefiRH
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975GEORGE00136
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750031-0385
From: GEORGETOWN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750118/aaaaapyt.tel
Line Count: 96
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 TATE 282967, 75 GEORGETOWN 0093
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: MorefiRH
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 17 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <17 APR 2003 by KelleyW0>; APPROVED <16 MAY 2003 by MorefiRH>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TRADE ACT OF 1974 - GOG POSITION ON APPLICATION FOR GSP ELIGIBILITY
TAGS: ETRD, GY, XL, (RAMPHAL)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006